

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of: (a) an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 or 15, (b) an isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or 16, (c) an isolated nucleic acid molecule that encodes a protein that is expressed in cancer and that exhibits at least about 75% nucleotide sequence identity over the entire contiguous sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 or 15, and (d) an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the complement of a nucleic acid molecule of (a), (b) or (c).

2. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises nucleotides 390-4880 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 12-4904 of SEQ ID NO: 3, nucleotides 424-1908 of SEQ ID NO: 5, nucleotides 405-1835 of SEQ ID NO: 7, nucleotides 89-1150 of SEQ ID NO: 9, nucleotides 223-1569 of SEQ ID NO: 11, nucleotides 418-1392 of SEQ ID NO: 13, or nucleotides 271-1431 of SEQ ID NO: 15.

3. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises nucleotides 390-4883 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 12-4907 of SEQ ID NO: 3, nucleotides 424-1911 of SEQ ID NO: 5, nucleotides 405-1838 of SEQ ID NO: 7, nucleotides 89-1153 of SEQ ID NO: 9, nucleotides 223-1572 of SEQ ID NO: 11, nucleotides 418-1395 of SEQ ID NO: 13, or nucleotides 271-1434 of SEQ ID NO: 15.

4. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule consists of nucleotides 390-4883 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 12-4907 of SEQ ID NO: 3, nucleotides 424-1908 of SEQ ID NO: 5, nucleotides 405-1835 of SEQ ID NO: 7, nucleotides 89-1153 of SEQ ID NO: 9, nucleotides 223-1569 of SEQ ID NO: 11, nucleotides 418-1395 of SEQ ID NO: 13, or nucleotides 271-1434 of SEQ ID NO: 15.

5. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of ~~any one of claims 1-4~~, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is operably linked to one or more expression control elements.

6. (Currently Amended) A vector comprising an isolated nucleic acid molecule of ~~any one of~~ claims 1-4.

7. (Currently Amended) A host cell transformed to contain the nucleic acid molecule of ~~any one of~~ claims 1-4.

8. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector of claim 6.

9. (Original) A host cell of claim 8, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of prokaryotic host cells and eukaryotic host cells.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing a host cell transformed with the nucleic acid molecule of ~~any one of~~ claims 1-4 under conditions in which the protein encoded by said nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of prokaryotic host cells and eukaryotic host cells.

12. (Original) An isolated polypeptide produced by the method of claim 10.

13. (Original) An isolated polypeptide or protein selected from the group consisting of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or 16, and a protein having at least about 75% amino acid sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or 16.

14. (Original) An isolated antibody or antigen-binding antibody fragment that binds to a polypeptide of claim 13.

15. (Original) An antibody of claim 14 wherein said antibody is a monoclonal or a polyclonal antibody.

16. (Original) A method of identifying an agent which modulates the expression of a nucleic acid encoding a protein of claim 13, comprising:
exposing cells which express the nucleic acid to the agent; and

determining whether the agent modulates expression of said nucleic acid, thereby identifying an agent which modulates the expression of a nucleic acid encoding the protein.

17. (Original) A method of identifying an agent which modulates the level of or at least one activity of a protein of claim 13, comprising:

exposing cells which express the protein to the agent;

determining whether the agent modulates the level of or at least one activity of said protein, thereby identifying an agent which modulates the level of or at least one activity of the protein.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the agent modulates one activity of the protein.

19. (Original) A method of modulating the expression of a nucleic acid encoding a protein of claim 13, comprising:

administering an effective amount of an agent which modulates the expression of a nucleic acid encoding the protein.

20. (Original) A method of modulating at least one activity of a protein of claim 13, comprising:

administering an effective amount of an agent which modulates at least one activity of the protein.

21. (Original) A method of identifying binding partners for a protein of claim 13, comprising:

exposing said protein to a potential binding partner; and

determining if the potential binding partner binds to said protein, thereby identifying binding partners for the protein.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying an agent which modulates the interaction between a binding partner of ~~claim 21~~ and a protein of claim 13, comprising:

exposing said protein with said partner to the agent; and
determining whether the agent modulates association of the binding partner with said protein, thereby identifying an agent which modulates association of a binding partner with said protein.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of modulating the interaction between a binding partner of ~~claim 21~~ and a protein of claim 13, comprising:

administering an effective amount of an agent which modulates association of a binding partner with said protein.

24. (Currently Amended) A non-human transgenic animal modified to contain a nucleic acid molecule of ~~any of claims 1-4~~.

25. (Original) The transgenic animal of claim 24, wherein the nucleic acid molecule contains a mutation that prevents expression of the encoded protein.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a disease state in a subject, comprising:

inserting into a diseased cell a gene construct comprising an isolated nucleic acid molecule of ~~any one of claims 1-4~~ linked to a promoter or enhancer element such that expression of said nucleic molecule causes suppression of said disease.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein said inserting into a diseased cell is accomplished *in vivo*.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein said inserting into a diseased cell further comprises use of a viral or plasmid agent and is accomplished either *in vitro* or *in vivo*.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing a disease state in a subject, comprising:

determining the level of expression of a nucleic acid molecule ~~or protein of any~~
~~one of claims 1-4 or 13.~~

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claims ~~26 and 29~~, wherein the disease state is cancer.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claims ~~26 and 29~~, wherein the disease state is a malignant neoplasm.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the malignant neoplasm occurs in the breast, colon, esophagus, kidney, liver, lung, lymph node, ovary, pancreas, prostate, rectum, and/or stomach.

33. (Original) A composition comprising a diluent and a polypeptide or protein selected from the group consisting of: an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or 16; an isolated polypeptide comprising a fragment of at least 10 amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or 16; an isolated polypeptide comprising conservative amino acid substitutions of SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or 16; an isolated polypeptide comprising naturally occurring amino acid sequence variants of SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or 16; and an isolated polypeptide exhibiting at least about 75% amino acid sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 or 16.

34. (New) A method of diagnosing a disease state in a subject, comprising:
determining the level of expression of a protein of claim 13.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the disease state is cancer.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the disease state is a malignant neoplasm.